ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

13TH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

ETOWAH
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, October 9th, 10th, 11th, 1896.

HERALD PRINT, ATTALLA ALA.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Reading letters from churches.
2. Election of officers.
3. Inviting visiting minsiters and brothers to seats.
4. Call for petitionary letters.
5. Call for correspondents.
6. Appoint committees.
7. Report of Standing Committies. (Committies may report at any time when the time is not occupied.
8. Miscellaneous business.
9. Call roll, and read the minutes.
10. Fix order of printing and distributing minutes.
11. Adjourn.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

C. T. Starkey	Minlow, Ala.	J. M. Flood	Gadsden, Ala
W. W. Wester	Hoke's Bluff, "	B. F. Smith	" "
K. S. Steel	" "	G. E. Jones	" "
W. Y. Adams	" "	Jacob Gray	Stanfield "
A. J. West	" "	P. M. Archer	" "
W. L. Culbertson	Attalla, "	B. F. Kirkland	Etowahton, "
J. R. Trotter	East Gadsden "	T. P. Galloway	Buford, "
J. E. Smith	Markton, "	J. S. Horton	Duck Springs. "
J. A. May	Walnut Grove, "	J. C. Holden	Reeves, "
J. D. Pettit	Alberoville, "	G. W. Lovell	Steele's, "
J. V. Dickinson	Gadsden, "		

LICINUATES AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

W. C. Smith	Crudup, Ala.	Abe Thornton	East Gadsden, Ala
C. W. C. Tucker	" "	J. B. Shaw	" "
G. C. Jenkins	Markton, "	R. D. Huff	Attalla, "

STANDING RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That any member in good standing in a church in this union, who may be present at any Association with whom we carrespond, shall be considered as a messenger to the same,

OFFICERS.

W. L. CULBERTSON, Moderator, ... Attalla, Ala.
H P. SMITH, Clerk..... Yancey, Ala.
W T. MURPHREE, Tresurer..... Gadsden, Ala

The next session to be held with Macedonia Church, Etowah County, Ala., beginning Friday before the second Sunday in Oct. 1897.

EDITOR'S NOTE.

The delay in getting out these minutes has been in no way due to Mr. Smith, the clerk, or to the executive board. The manuscript was put in our hands 5 days after the Association met, and the delay on our part was unavoidable. ATTALLA HERALD.

ETOWAH ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES.

Of the thirteenth annual meeting of the Etowah Baptist Association held with Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church Oct. 9, 10, 11, 1896.

MARKTON, ALA., Oct. 9th, 1896.

The Etowah Baptist Association met with Pilgrim's Rest Church according to previous appointment. Bro. J. V. Dickenson not being present at the appointed hour. Rev. A. E. Burns preached the introductory sermon from Gal. 6-14, after which the Association adjourned for dinner.

AFTERNOON.

The Association was called to order by reading the 93d Psalm, after which Bro. E. G. Jones led in prayer. Called for letters from the churches. Appointed Rev. A. E. Burns and W. T. Murphree to read letters. Enrolled delegates as follows:

ANTIOCH—R. T. Moore, A. M. Gibson, W. M. Shaw.
ATTALLA—T. L. Swanson, J. W. Wright, S. P. Beaudean, S. D. Moore.
BETHANY—J. W. Gilliland, Austin Lankford and J. E. Gilliland.
BRISTOE'S CREEK—R. E. Burroughs, J. M. Winn.
CAVE SPRINGS—Thos. P. Galloway, W. M. McCrenton, John Grant.
CENTER—D. W. Carter.
EAST GADSDEN—John W. Adams, Jr., T. J. Sizemore, John W. Wagnon, Abe Thornton.
FAIRVIEW—G. E. Jones, W. C. Smith, E. D. Howard.
GREENWOOD—J. W. Bradley, and H. B. Hawkins.
GADSDEN—J. V. Dickinson, S. J. Carlton, W. T. Murphree, W. E. Edwards, and D. P. Goodhue.
LIBERTY COOSA—F. Forter, J. W. Heaton, W. W. Weston, W. T. Culbertson, and E. E. Hollinsworth.
MACEDONIA—Rev. W. M. Shelton, W. R. League.
MT. ARARAT—F. M. Nabors and John Marker.
MT. CARMEL—J. H. Sitz, A. J. Gilliland, John F. Pitman, Joe L. Jones, J. E. Lancaster, W. T. Bentley, and J. J. M. Flood.
NEW HARMONY—W. W. C. Tucker, J. D. Scarbro, and W. C. Aldridge.
PILGRIM'S REST—J. E. Smith, M. T. W. Smith, G. C. Jenkins, D. W. Sharky, J. M. Gray, C. F. Hensly, and E. H. Griffin.
PLEASANT VALLEY—L. F. Burgess, R. D. Huff.
PLEASANT HILL—P. M. Archer.
UNION NO. 1—H. P. Smith and O. Q. Norton.
UNION NO. 2—J. A. Gallant and T. J. Brown.
WALNUT GROVE—J. T. Campbell, Robt. Reavis, Sidney Nelson.
WHITE'S CHAPEL—A. B. Jenkins, C. E. Sutherlin, E. W. Bradley.
WHITE'S SPRINGS—R. R. Yates, E. P. Little, J. C. Greenaway, P. G. Newton, W. A. Colvin.

Appointed A. E. Burns and W. T. Murphree, as tellers, after which the Association went into the election of Rev. W. T. Culbertson as Moderator, and H. P. Smith Clerk.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us when Brother B. W. Duke reported as a visitor from Calhoun Association.

Called for correspondents and received State Evangelist A. E. Burns.

By a move the order of business of last session was made the order for this session of the Association.

Supplied vacancies in Standing Committees as follows:

Home Missions—E. E. Hollinsworth.
State Missions—J. M. Flood, J. W Gilliland, and T. L. Swanson.
Digest of Letters and State of the Churches—J. V. Dickenson, W. T. Murphree.
Associational Missions—S. D. Monroe.
Sunday Schools—C. W. C. Tucker and W. T. Gay.
Temperance—C. E. Sutherlin.

Moved that the Association constitute a Standing Committee on Obituaries.

Appointed the following named brethren as a committee: O. L. Norton, J. W. Wagnon, J. H. Sitz.

Appointed pastor and deacons of Pilgrims Rest Church together with O. L. Norton and J. F. Pitman as a committee on devotional exercises.

Appointed R. E. Boroughs, T. J. Brown, and W. C. Arledge as a Committee on Finance.

Appointed the following named brethren as a Committee on Time, Place and Nominations: H. P. Smith, Joe L. Jones, J. M. Winn, W. R. League, R. R. Yates and J. W. Wagnon.

Moved, that the Association meet at 9 a. m., and hold till 12 o'clock, give one hour for dinner, meeting at 1 p. m., for business and adjourn ad libitum.

Committee on Devotional Exercises reported as follows:

Brother J. V. Dickinson to peach at Pilgrim's Rest Church to-night. Rev. A. E. Burns to preach at Cedar Bend to-morrow night. Brother Culbertson to preach at Pilgrim's Rest to-morrow night. Brethren Flood and Jones to preach at Brannons Springs to-morrow night.

Move to adjourn.

SECONE DAY.

After reading from the 12th chapter of Exodus and prayer by J. W. Heaton, the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

Read and adopted the minutes of the previous day.

Appointed standing committees as follows:

Foreign Missions—J V Dickensen, J E Smith, and W M Slaton.
Home Missions—W W Wester, S J Carlton, and W P Archer
State Missions—W Y Adams, G E Jones, and J W Gilliland

Education—W T Murphree, R T Moore, and W T Gay
Temperance—J M Flood, W M Shaw, and J A Gallant
Sunday Schools—J T Campbell, R R Yates, and T L Swanson
Associational Missions—J R Trotter, J M Vinn, and T P Galloway
Digest of Letters and State of the Churches—S D Monroe, D P Goodhue, and E P Little
Obituaries—A B Jenkins, J F Pitman, W R League
Executive Committee—A E Goodhue, A H Barnes, O Q Norton, J T Campbell, R R Yates, J V Dickenson, and W L Culbertson

Motion and second the names of J. V. Dickenson and W. L. Culbertson he added to the Executive Committee.

Read report on Education, which was dicsussed by brethren Dickenson, Moore, Wester and Murphree, after which report was recommitted that recommendations might be made in regard to ministerial education

Read following report on Associatienal Missions which was adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIOMS.

We, your Committee on Associational Missions, beg to submit the following report:

1st. The foundation of all mission work lies in the individual, since in regeneration all persons are imbued with a spirit of missions, and it is the sense of this committee that we should use our best efforts to organize the churches, and especially the young people, in more systematic work for the Master. We therefore recommend that all our pastors, and in case there is no pastor, some deacon or other capable Baptist, proceed as early as possible to organize a Young People's Union and Sunday School in every church and community.

2d. That all our ministers and church workers be requested to preach, talk, work and pray for the success of all missions since we are unable to see why a spirit that opposes missions does not condemn us in opposidg Christianity and destroying the hope of all that are now unsaved. We recommend that an earnest, capable evangelist should be employed to work only in the destitution of this Association for not less than three months—July, August and September next, and that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee for definite action, when the proper man can be secured and satisfactory arrangements can be made. It is further the opinion of this committee that every Baptist, and especially the ministers, should make sacrifices of time and property to reach every destitution and unsaved person in this Associatiou and in the world. Respectfully submitted.

S. D. Monroe,
Joe. L. James,
O. Q. Norton.
Committee.

Motion that Brother Dickenson have an opportunity to speak on the reports of standing committees.

Read report on Foreign Missions which was very ably discussed by R. T. Moore, Rev. J. R. Trotter, after which there was a motion to postpone further discussion till 1 p. m.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSONS.

Your Committee on Foreign Missions beg to submit the following report:

By consulting the statistical report of the Foreign Board we find that there has been great progress made in all the fields where missionary operations are held, except in the countries of Japan and Africa.

We find that there are 196 missionaries and native helpers, with 735 baptisms and a membership of 3,801, being an increase of 308 since the last annual report.

STATISTICAL TABLE—1895-1896.

S. B. C. Missions	Missionaries	Native Helpers	Churches	Baptisms	Members.
Africa,	6	8	6	51	247
Brazil,	11	8	15	273	783
China,	41	44	19	152	1266
Italy,	3	28	21	79	430
Japan,	6	4	1	3	40
Mexico,	19	18	37	177	1635
Total,	86	110	98	735	3891

The Foreign Field is large and the harvest is "ripe," and the laborers are few and funds scarce.

Respectfully submitted.

J. F. Smith, Chairman.
J. W. Heaton,
R. P. Moore.

Read report on Education which was adopted with the amendments.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Realizing as we do that next to preaching the everlasting gospel that there is nothing which bears a heavenlier aspect, or breathes purer fragrance than the education of the minds when directed in a proper moral channel, for it is in the school room the foundation is laid, upon which the student must build. Therefore, we cannot be too careful as to how this foundation is laid. While we do not object to a system of education under the direction of the state, yet we, as Baptists, cannot afford to trust the training of our boys and girls to the state. Therefore, we earnestly urge upon our people the vital importance of patronizing our denominational schools, for in no other department of education can we be assured of the proper moral as well as the intellectual training of our children. Above all the scientific training of the mind let us give our young people the advantage of a moral education, so that when every memento of greatness is lost in the general wreck of nature this foundation shall remain to swell the list of the mighty throng which have been clothed with the mantle of righteousness and their voices attuned to the melody of heaven for this principle like a tender flower planted in the fertile soil of a true heart will grow, and expand its foliage, and impart its fragrance till transplanted to bloom in perpetual vigor and unfading beauty in the "Paradise of God."

So again we say patronize our own schools, especially the Howard College, for boys, and the Judson Institute, for girls. We further urge upon the members of this Association the importance of ministerial education, and recommend that some steps be taken to assist young ministers in obtaining an education who are unable to educate themselves.

Respectfully submitted.

W. W. Weston,
R. R. Yeats, Committee.

Read and adopted following report on Temperance.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, make the following report:

We are glad the cause of temperance is gaining ground and that many of our fellowmen who have been intemperate in practice have seen the evil of intemperance and have ceased to keep company with evil doers

and have joined company with those who bear the marks of Christ. We are pained to see some of our brethren, who should be the light of the world, do not see the importance of being temperate in all things. We hope the time will soon come when the professor in Christ will see the error of their way and return unto their first love and let their light so shine that others may be constrained to glorify our Father which art in heaven. And be not drunk with wine wherein is excess, but be filled with the spirit.

Respectfully submitted.

C. E. Sutherlin,
L. F. Burgess,
G. C. Jenkins.

Motion that Bro. J. R. Trotter preach the Temperance sermon.

AFTERNOON OF SECOND DAY.

Motion to elect a Treasurer.

Brother W. T. Murphree was placed in nomination and was unanimously elected.

Motion to suspend regular order of business and hear the report on Time, Place and Nominations. Report as follows:

Time—Friday, before the second Sunday in October 1897.

Place—Macedonia.

Introductory Sermon—W. L. Culbertson, J. R. Trotter, Alt.

Temperance Sermon—W. W. Wester, G. E. Jones, Alternate.

Missionary Sermon—J. V. Dickenson, J. M. Flood, Alternate.

Read report on State Missions which was very ably discussed by Rev. J. E. Smith, and Rev J. V. Dickenson.

A motion was then made by Brother R R. Yates that the Association hear Rev. A. E. Burns on the subject of missions and then limit all speakers to ten minutes.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Your committee on State Missions beg leave to submit the following report:

We find, that notwithstanding the financial depression of the past year, the work has steadily advanced; but, in volume and results, is still far below the duty and the privilege of the denomination in the state, the desires of those who love the cause of Christ and the actual needs of the harvest field. The State Board has now in the field twenty-four missionaries.

Cash on hand and received from Nov. 1, 1895, to July 1, 1896	$5,575 92
Disbursements to July 1, 1896	6,695 68
Leaves an indebtedness of	$1,119 76

We feel that the outlook is very encouraging. Indeed, from the best sources of information at hand, we are led to believe that it is brighter now than it has been within five years This shows that there has been a campaign of education carried on among the rank and file, which we trust will be prosecuted with still greater vigor during the coming year.

We have no new methods or plans to suggest; but think it of the utmost importance that the principle and privilege of giving to help carry out this one of the last and greatest commands of the Master, be preached from the pulpit, taught in the Sunday Schools and in all the homes within

the bounds of this Association

Respectfully submitted.
T. L. Swanson,
J. W. Gilliland,

Read report on Home Missions, which was adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Home Mission, beg leave to report the following:

We can do nothing better than to copy the report of the work of the Home Mission Board. The labors of our missionaries this year have been attended by the influence of the Divine spirit, so that only once before in all its history has the board been able to report such results. The number of missionaries has been a small decrease from the number reported the previous year, but larger than any other year in the board's history. The baptisms have been 5,617, only 304 less than last year. The receipts have been $75,927.51 against $76,770.91 last year. The estimated value of the board's property last year was $99,430. The increase during the present year has been $5,150, making the present total $104,580. The board began the year with a debt of $1,100 and ends the year with $7,950 indebtedness incurred during the present year is $6,850. Of this amount $5,150 has been invested in property in New Orleans and El Paso, leaving the actual expenditure for the present year above receipts $1,600.

Following is the work for the conventional year: Missionaries, 411; week of labor, 12,329; churches and stations, 1,626; sermons and addresses, 58,041; prayer meetings, 9,622; baptisms, 5,617; received by letter 6,672; total addition, 13,295; Sunday Schools organized, 372; teachers and pupils, 12,635; religious visits, 61,498; churches constituted, 106; houses of worship built, 92; houses of worship improved, 146; amount expended on houses of worshtp, $36,209; Bibles and testaments distributed, 2,595; tracts distributed, pages, 726,675. The State Board or Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland Mississippi, North Caroiina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western Arkansas and Western North Carolina are in co-operation with us in a part or the whole of their work. Brethren, we, your committee, urge that the churches be requested to heartily co-operate with the board in this work.

Respectfully submitted.
E. E Hollingsworth,
J. M. Winn,
G. E. Jones.

Read following report on Digest of Letters and State of the Churches.

DIGEST OF LETTERS AND STATE OF CHURCHES.

Your committee beg to report that in many respects this has been one of the best years of the Associations existence. Some features are worthy of special emphasis. It has been a year marked by gracious revivals in many of our churches, the total number of baptisms being 167, and the net reported growth of our membership reaches the encouraging number of 302. Many flourishing Sunday Schools are reported, and we feel sure that there are others not reported in the letters. The financial report, while far from what it ought to be, is still gratifying as compared with that of last year. Two churches gave nothing to any of the boards All contributed to minutes, and all reported by letter We trust that next year will mark a great stride forward in the manifestation of the grace of

liberality on the part of our churches. The churches seem almost totally to have forgotten ministerial education, and we recommend early collections for that purpose.

J. V. Dickinson
A. T. Gilliland,
W. T. Murphree,
Committee.

Read and adopted report of committe on obituaries.

COMMITTE OF OBITUARIES

Your committee under the painful necessity of reporting to this Association the death, since we last assembled, of three of our most loved and highly esteemed brothren, and constant attendents upon this body, their voices have been heard for years in prayful and earnest advacacy of the interest of God's Kingdon in this association, and in their several communities. But a loving Heavenly Father has called them into the Heavenly mansions.

Bro. V. H. Sean, an ordained minister and member of Mt Carmel church died Feb. 24th 1896. Bro. M. B. Jelks, a deacon of East Gadsden church, and for many years the Superintendent of its S. S., died in March 1896. Bro. Levi Stephens, a deacon of Union No. 1 church, died in Aug. 1896.

O. Q. Norton,
J. H. Sitz,
J. H. Wagnon
Committee.

The following resolutions were offered by Rev. J, V. Dickinson, which were unanimously adopted by the Association;

Resolved. That the Executive Committee be authorized to apportion among the churches $75 asked of this association for the work of the State Board of Missions, and that they be instructed if possible to arrange for a ministors institute somewhere in our bounds.

Moved that the church clerk be instructed to send letters and statistics to the Executive committe at least two weeks before the next Assocciation and that the committee be instructed to have printed reports at said meeting.

Move to adjourn.

THIRD DAY.

The Association was called to order by Bro. R. T. Moore by reading the 13 chapter of 1 Cor., and prayer by Rev T. Galloway.

Read and adopted minutes of the previous day

Moved that Brothren Moore, Norton and Bishop be instructed to draw up and present to the Association a resolution of thanks for the entertainment of the Association.

Appointed the following named brothred to the Baptist State Convention: W. W. Wester, J. R. Trotter, S. D. Monroe, R R. Yates, Robt Cramp, Joe L. Jones, J. M. Flood, W. Y. Adams, H. P. Smith, W. L. Culbertson; Alternates: J. E. Smith, T. P. Golloway.

Moved that Bro. Culbertson be instructed to go to the Southern Baptist Convention, also W. Y. Adams.

Moved that the Clerk be instructed to retain $5.00 for his services and expend the remainder for minutes.

Resolved that the hearty thanks of the members of the Association are due and are hereby extended to the very hospitable people of Pilgrim Rest Church and community for their loving and sumptuous entertainment of the brethren during this Association.

Read following report on Sunday Schools.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to submit the following report.

There is no work in connection with the church of more importance than that of the Sunday School. There is nothing which can take the place of the Sunday School. The preaching of the word from the sacred desk cannot supply the mission of the Sunday School. The Sunday School is really the church at work, a place where the little boys and girls are being taught the scriptures, which are able to make them wise unto salvation. The ministration from the pulpit are rendered much more efficient by the work of the Sunday School, because the minds and hearts of its students are prepared to receive the truths of the gospel.

We are happy to note there has been a great awakening among the christians of all denominations to the importance of Sunday Schools. We noticed in the letters from the various churches to the Association that nearly every church has a good Sunday School, and further, that most of the conversions were from the Sunday School. This is certainly encouraging and should stimulate us to work with still more zeal and energy in the Sunday School cause.

We are commanded to train up our children in nurture and admonition of the Lord, and, there is no better way, in connection with home training than through the Sunday School. Through the medium of the Sunday School we are enabled to reach a large class of children who would otherwise receive no religious training. A large percent of parents are not christians, and of course their children do not receive religious training at home, and even among parents who profess to be followers of Christ, the religious training of the children is sadly neglected in the home.

The Sunday School has been truthfully termed the nursery of the church, for statistics show that a large percent of the accessions to the church are from the Sunday School and that nearly all the children brought up in the Sunday Schools become christians, and efficient workers in the vineyard of the Lord, while a very small percent of those outside of the Sunday School ever become christians, and those who do are not so zealous in the cause.

We your committee are of the opinion, that where it is practicable that we shall have denominational schools, that is, we should have Baptist Sunday Schools, not merely in name, but indeed and in truth, Sunday Schools where the peculiar tenets and doctrines which distinguish Baptist from all others are clearly taught. If our doctrines are worth anything at all they are worth being taught to our children, and to the world. If we have the truth as it is in Christ, and revealed in the New Testament, Surely we aught not to cover it up or be ashamed to maintain it boldly before the world. We are commanded to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered unto to the saints, and to keep the ordinances pure as they were delivered unto us, and if we fail to do this, for fear of being called

selfish and bigoted, then we have more regards for the opinions of men than for the commands of God.

In conclusion if we are sincere in the belief that we as Baptists have the truth in its purity, let us teach it to our children and all mankind, the truth the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Respectfully Submitted.

W. M. Shaw,
C. W. C, Tucker,
W. Y. Gay.
Committee.

Motion to adopt with the following amendment: We reccoment the use of the Sunday School Publications of Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. After which subject discussed by brothren Trotter, Moore, Gay, Campbell, Galloway, Tucker, Smith and Bishop and then was adopted.

Read report on Finance, which was adopted.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Amount paid in for minutes $20.91; For Ministerial Education, $1.33 For Missions, $42 48; Total amount $64.72

Respectfully Submitted.

R. T. J. Brown,
W. C. Arledge,
R. E. Burrs.
Committe.

Moved that we have an intermission of ten minutes, for Missionary sermon, after assembling together, State Evangelist Burns, preached an able sermon on the subject of missions. At the close of the Sermon appointed brothren Pascal, Moore, Jones, Yates to take up a collection, which resulted in a contribution of $13 70 which by order of the association was turned over to Bro. Burns

Adjourned.

W. L. CULBERTSON,
Moderator.

H. P. SMITH,
Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

The name of the Association shall be "The Etowah Baptist Association."

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall perform such duties and perform them in such a manner as is ordinarily required of such officers. They shall be elected at or near the opening of each annual session of the body.

The membership of the Association shall be such churches as shall see fit and be permitted to represent themselves in its session by delegates.

Each church shall be entitled to one delegate for each twenty-five members, or fractional part thereof, but each church shall be entitled to at least two delegates.

The object of this Association shall be the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom not only within its bounds, but throughout the world. It shall aid and encourage, by means of its influence, those grand institution and agencies which, in the providence of God, have been established by the wise and good among our brethren for the spread of the Gospel throughout the world for the distribution of the Bible among those destitute of it, for the education of young men for the work of the ministry, as well as for the cause of education generally, for the promotion of the Sunday School cause, the cause of temperance, etc.

The Association shall employ such means and adopt such measures as shall seem best calculated to cultivate Christian unity and fellowship among the brethren within its bounds, to provoke the brethren to love and do good work, to stir up the pure minds of the brethren by way of remembrance, to secure individual advancement in the divine life in every way as individuals, to illustrate to the world the reality of the religion of Jesus Christ.

BY-LAWS.

1. Preparatory to the orginization of the Association an introductory sermon shall be preached by a member appointed at the previous meeting, and another shall be named at the same time to ferform the duty in case of the failure of the first.

2. The service being ferformed, the Moderator, or if he be absent, the oldest minister present shall open the Association with prayer.

3. He shall call for letters from the churches, when the delegates shall present them and take their seats in order.

4. When the Association is regularly organized, as prescribed by the Constitution, the correspondence from other Associations shall be called for the letters read and the messengers received by the right hand of fellowship from the moderator. The messenger shall be invited to seats in the Association and accorded the priviledge of speaking on any subject before the body, but not of voting on any. Other brothren may be invited to seats with the same privilege and prohibition.

5. Subjects not enamed in the last minutes may, at the desecration of the Association, be taken up at any time when there is no business before the body.

6. Any subject not contained in the minutes must be regularly brought forward by motion which shall be seconded before it can be taken up. After this it shall be consided as property at the disposal of the Association, unless it be withdrawn by the mover.

7. No one shall speak oftner than three times on the same subject, unless permitted by the Association. The speaker shall always rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

8. Silence and decorum shall be observed by every member of the Association while the body is in session, and more especially in the time of debate. All personal reflections and remarks tending to wound the feelings of brothren shall be strictly avoided.

9. No member of the Association shall leave the house while the Association is in session without leave of the Moderator.

10. In order to expediate business, committees shall be raised at the desecration of the Association, who shall be named by the moderator.

11. The meeting of the Association shall, on each day of session, be opened and closed with prayer.

12. The minutes of each day shall be read at its beginning and close of business, after prayer, each succeeding day, when the names of the delegates shall be called, and the whole minutes of the session shall be read at its close and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

13. Any alteration of these By-Laws may be made at any meeting of the Association by two-thirds of the members present.

RULES OF ORDER.

The rules of order usually observed by deliberative bodies of this kind shall be observe by this Association.

If any point of order be raised by any member of the body, it shall be decided by the Moderator, but appeal may be taken from his decision to the body.

"Well's Parliamentary Practice" shall be used as authority in regard to questions of order.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

There is one and but one God, who is a Spirit, omnicent, omnipitent, omnipresent, eternal, unchangable, infinite in goodness and wisdom, of invioalble truth, perfectly just, of immaculate holiness, the Creator of all things, the preserver of all, and the Supreme ruler over alll

The Godhead is a trinity—Father, Son and Holy Ghost—three persons in one divine essence.

The Son became incarnate, thus uniting in himself the divine and human natures that he might become the mediator between God and man: man's final judge, and by his life, death and resurrection the Redeemer and Savior of His people.

The Holy Spirit is the sanctioner and comforter of God's people. He is, through the divine word the author of the new spiritual life produced in man in his regeneration.

The Holy Scriptures were given by divine inspiration as a revelation of God's will to man concerning him, and constitute to him an infallible rule of faith and practice.

Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, were created holy, and for a time served the Creator acceptably living innocently and happy in His favor; but Adam having been placed under a covenant of works, violated it and brought the penalty of the violation upon himself and his decendents.

All men partaking of the consequences of the fall, are both totally depraved and guilty of actual transgression of God's laws.

No man can free himself from his native deprivity, or from condemnation. No man can save himself. There is no way of salvation but by Jesus Christ.

The Christian Sabbath is the first day of the week, and should be kept holy and consecrated to the service and worship of God in obediance to the command. "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy," and in commemoration of the reserection on that day of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The ordinances of the gospel are two—Baptism, and the Lord's supper. The Great Head of the Church requires the the perpetual observance of these ordinances by the church as such and under their authority.

Baptism is the immersion of the beleiver in water by one duly qualified and authorized to Administer the rite. It is prerequisite to church membership.

A gospel church is a company of Baptised beleivers, organized under the laws of its Great Head, for the advancement of God's kingdom in the world. The officers of the church are its pastors and deacons. Each church is an independent body subject only to the commands of its Great Head. The work required of the church is missionary in its character. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

The Holy Spirit continues the work of sanctification upon those whom He has regenerated to the end of life, and thus save all who are regenerated from apostacy.

All who will be finally saved were chosen of God the Father before the foundation of the world, and gave to Jesus Christ in the covenant of grace; yet all who will be lost will have rejected a preferred salvation.

The bodies of all who die will be raised from the dead and reunited to their spirits for the judgement of the great day.

In the last day Jesus Christ will come to judge the world, and having assembled all men before him, will pass sentance upon them according to their works.

Heaven is a place to which the righteous will be received, and made perfectly happy in the presence and enjoyment of God forever.

Hell is a place into which the wicked shall be cast, to suffer everlasting punishment for their sins.

STATISTICS OF ETOWAH ASSOCIATION. 1896.

CHURCH.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P.O.	Membership last reported.	Incr'se by			Decr'se by			Present Membership	SUNDAY SCHOOL		Sup't's Name and P. O, Addres	Preach'g Sab'th	Rep't P'r Met'n	Reports Revival
						Baptism	Letter.	Restorati'n	Letter.	Exclusion.	Death.		Officers and Teachers.	Pupils				
Antioch	St. Clair	G. W. Lovell	M. G. Williams ...	Steeles Depot	63	5	1		1			71		40	W. M. Shaw, Steele's Depot. ..	4th.		
Attalla	Etowah	W. L. Culbertson	T. L. Swanson	Attalla ...	83		5		4			79	10	75	T. L. Swanson, Attalla.....	2&4	1	
Bethany	"	J. E. Smith.....	W. F. Gilliland ...	Hill		4	2		11			91	7	70				1
Brister's Creek	"	J. A. May	J. M. Winn.....	Aurora	63	7	5	4	6	1		72	7		J. M. Winn, Aurora.....	4th.		
Cave Springs	"	J. S. Horton	C. W Butler	Mount'nboro	69	9	12		3		1	86				2n		1
Center	"	B. F. Smith.... ...	W. L. Brown	Attalla	12	21	6					39				3rd		
East Gadsden	"	W Y. Adams	D. N. Jelks	East Gadsden	74	13			4			83	7	82	Jno. F. Adams. East Gadsden.	3rd		1
Fairview	"	J. S. Horton	G. H. Bearden	Brice	86	10	4		1		1	98						1
Gadsden	"	G. E. Jones.....	Geo. S. Vann	Gadsden	277	11	14		9		1	292	17	140	A. E. Goodhue, Gadsden	*	1	2
Greenwood	"	J. V. Dickinson...	J. F. Keener		46	9	15		14	2	1	53				4th.		
Liberty Coosa	"	W. Y. Adams	D. D. Nabors	Hoke's Bluff	174	11	25		15	2	1	192	10	100	A. H. Barnes, Hokes Bluff.....	2&4		1
Macedonia	"	W. L. Culbertson	W. K. Leads	" "	35	8	3					46				2n		1
Mt Ararat	"	J. C. Holden	F. M. Nabors.	Glencoe	34	8	2		1	1	2	40						
Mt. Carmel.....	"	W. L. Culbertson	Jno. L. Jones.....	Gadsden ...	191	11	30	3	6		2	240	8	76	W. S. Clayton, Gadsden	1&3	1	1
New Harmony	"	G. E. Jones.....	W. B. Heaton	Crudup	60	8		1	8	1		60			W. H. Tucker, Crudup			1
Pilgrim's Rest	"	J, E. Smith	W. P. Archer	Markton	162		3	5	7	1		162	7	80	M. T. W. Smith, Markton ...	1st		
Pleasant Hill	"				26				6	5		15				2n	1	
Pleasant Valley	"	B. F. Smith.....	J. W, Swindell	Attalla	43		3		2		1	43						
Union No. 1....	"	J. A. May	H. P. Smith	Yancey	126	11	1		2	1	2	133	4	40	J. T. Johnson, Seaborn.....	3rd		1
Union No. 2....	"	G. W. Lovell	W. A. Culberson	Gallant	60	1	2		5		2	56				1st		
Walnut Grove	"	J. D. Glenn	J, H. Ellison	WalnutGrove	102	22	3		7			117	8	94	J. T. Camppell, walnut Grove.	4th.	1	1
White's Chapel	"	A. J. West	J. T. Stephens	Lukes.....	79	1	8	1	3	1		84			A. D. Jenkins, Sanoma.....	4th		1
White Springs	"		R. R. Yeats.	Gadsden	80	7	8	4	3	1	1	94	6	70	R. R. Yates, Gadsden.....	4th.		1

* Every. † Union Sunday School.

Increase by Voucher,—Mt. Carmel 13.

Decreased by Erasure:—Walnut Grove 3.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF ETOWAH ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR 1896.

CHURCH.	MISSIONS. STATE. Cash	STATE. Voucher.	HOME. Cash.	HOME. Voucher.	FOREIGN. Cash.	FOREIGN. Voucher.	MINUTES	HOME EXPENSES Pastor's Salary	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, etc	Sunday School.	TOTAL	Value of Property.
Antioch	15		1 02	2 50	30	5 40	1 75				10 12	
Attalla	6 00		3 00		3 84		1 10	134 85	90 00	28 67	267 36	1000 00
Bethany	76						70			1 40	1 40	
Brister's Creek			4 00				1 00	75 00	30 00	5 37	300 00	
Cave Springs			50				85				85	
Center							60			1 11	2 21	
East Gadsden			3 00		3 00		96	25 50		22 77	50 23	600 00
Fairview	2 55						1 00	26 94			30 50	
Gadsden		8 75		1500		3737	2 00	800 00	437 64	65 00	1410 31	70000 00
Greenwood							60					
Liberty Coosa		1000		7 00		1200	1 20	200 00		11 00	281 20	10000 00
Macedonia		3 06					50				3 56	
Mt. Carmel		3 28	3 25			3 30	1 00	133 22	136 95		263 00	12000 00
Mt. Ararat			50				1 00	28 00			30 70	
New Harmony							1 00	40 00		1 00	42 00	
Pilgrim's Rest	1 00						1 00			7 00		
Pleasant Hill							60				60	
Pleasant Val.		2 55	1 65				50				4 70	
Union No. 1	5 65		1 80				1 20	49 55		5 23		
Union No. 2				2 68		3 28	1 75					
Walnut Grove		1+17					1 00			14 12	5 29	
Whites Chapel		1 60		2 00			50				29 39	1500 00
White Springs				2 70	1 11		40			4 46	4 10	
											8 77	300 00

EDUCATION;—Ministerial:—Liberty Coosa, voucher, $25.00. Union No. 1., cash, $1.33 College Building:—Gadsden, voucher, $22.05; Liberty Coosa, voucher, $15.00.

ORPHAN'S HOME:—Gadsden, voucher, $22.50; Mt. Carmel, voucher, $3,20.

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AND

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